



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,871	08/01/2003	Naoshi Kobuya	SONYJP 3.0-319	4649
530	7590	09/10/2007	EXAMINER	
LERNER, DAVID, LITTBENBERG, KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK 600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST WESTFIELD, NJ 07090			TO, TUAN C	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3663		
		MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE
		09/10/2007		PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/632,871	KOBUYA ET AL.
	Examiner Tuan C. To	Art Unit 3663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/25/2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2,3,8,9,11-13 and 26-28 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 2,3,8,9,11-13 and 26-28 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 11-13, and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sagie (US 20020091793A1) and in view of DeLorme et al. (US 5948040A).

Regarding claims 2, 8, and 11, the first reference to Sagie teaches a system/method for tourist guiding comprising: information acquisition means for acquiring information specifying a combination of the information from the plurality of information sources and the contents information; site information focusing means for narrowing down the site information using the acquired information; and guide contents generating means for generating the guide contents using the narrowed down site information (Sagie, paragraphs 0115, and 0129, soft buttons are used to acquire plurality of information and tourist guide contents; In paragraph 0136, the tourist can narrow down site by tap on a corresponding button). Sagie additionally teaches album creation means for generating an album page incorporating record information from said tour in response to a user request after the tour (see abstract, digital tour album captures times and places wherein the tourists has visited).

Claims 2, 8, 11, Sagie teaches the album creation means for generating an album page incorporating record information including memo information from a tour in response to a user request after the tour (paragraph 0152).

Second reference to DeLorme et al. directs to another content server which generates guide contents (Trip map data and other related trip information) in which the all trip function, data and services can be provided entirely online (DeLorme et al, column 14, lines 43-52). In DeLorme et al, specially in figure 1A, the visual display or CRT 115 is provided as well another output devices such as speakers, sound/voice 119 for generating guide contents on a plurality of image layers superimposed on each

other, each image layer corresponding to an information source among the plurality of information sources (DeLorme et al, figure 1C; column 23, lines 30-44).

In DeLorme et al., the trip user can preview and customize the guide contents on the basic of user information entered by the user; whereby the user can preview and customize said trip (DeLorme et al, column 19, lines 9-15, lines 25-31; column 20, lines 47-54; column 18, lines 58-65).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system/method for guiding tourist as taught by Sagie to include the include the teachings as taught by DeLorme et al. as discussed herein above so that user can, with a mouse's click, quickly obtain a travel information or data related to a place or region or information about a specified location in that place or region.

As to claims 3, and 9, Sagie illustrates a digital navigation map (Sagie, figure 14) including site position information, and said map includes positional information on a map (Sagie, figure 14, red circle indicates where tourist is, green triangle indicates the next target). The digital navigation map as shown including the layout of the a region in which the position of tourist and the next target located.

As to claims 12 and 13, from the detail map as taught in DeLorme et al., the trip user can select an icon to retrieve information related. For example, the Jolly Ginger's information is shown in figure 1B-3.

As to claims 26-28, the system/method for tourist guiding in Sagie provided to navigate the tourist to and within tour sites using visual navigation method and detailed

multimedia narrations on objects along the tour. The guide contents are outputted and ready for use by the tourist (Sagie, paragraph 0017). Therefore, the guide contents are inherently outputted based on an update date of the guide contents.

Response to Applicant's Arguments

The applicant's remarks dated on 06/25/2007 includes the following: "The examiner relies upon Sagie to meet the present invention's album creation means limitation. (Office Action page 3). However, Sagie states that the mobile subsystem used to create a tour album "only records the date and time of the visit and a bookmark to the Digital Guidebook." (Paragraph [0152]) Hence, Sagie does not disclose generating an album page which includes memo information as required in the present claims".

The applicant's argument is not persuasive because the mobile subsystem as being disclosed in Sagie electronic books, palm computers, smart cellular phones, wearable computers, etc, each having a portable memory for storing user's text data or other data. Therefore, the mobile subsystem disclosed in the cited reference to Sagie is able to store a memo prepared by a user. Also as taught in paragraph 0152, the mobile subsystem is programmed to record a log of visits at tour sites in order to lately create a Tour Album. According to this, it is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the information recorded in the mobile subsystem to create a Tour Album about tour sites.

For that reasons, the application is now set in a condition of final rejection.

Conclusions

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tuan C To", is written over a horizontal line.

Tuan C To

August 22, 2007